

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0043] (as originally filed: *note - this corresponds to paragraph [0073] as numbered in the published application*) with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0043] A viral replicon RNA or DNA vector encoding the viral replicon RNA may be transfected into a cell line suitable for expression of the viral replicon RNA. Suitable cell lines include, for example, mammalian cell lines such as Vero cells, HeLa cells, CHO cells, COS cells, WI38 cells, NIH-3T3 cells (and other fibroblast cells, such as MRC-5 cells), MDCK cells, KB cells, SW-13 cells, MCF7 cells, BHK cells, HEK-293 cells, HepG2 cells, Bowes melanoma cells cell lines; and chicken embryonic fibroblast (CEF) cell lines. In one embodiment, the cell line is a human cell line, such as, for example, a human hepatoma cell line such as Huh-7. Suitable means of transfection include, for example, calcium phosphate co-precipitates, mechanical procedures such as microinjection, electroporation, insertion of a plasmid encased in liposomes, as well as other techniques known in the art.